country. Various schemes have been implemented from time to time to augment the export of jute goods, like External Market Assistance Scheme, Export Promotion Stabilisation Fund Scheme etc. Funds are provided to the Council by the Government for operating the export incentive schemes, as also for participation of the Council in various export promotion events at home and abroad for growth of jute goods produced in the country.

(c) Jute Manufactures Development Council has been set up by the Government w.e.f. 1.5.84 under the JMDC Act, 1983 and delegated all functions relating to export promotion in jute sector. The Head Office of the Council is in Calcutta, with three Branch Offices at Delhi, Chennai and Hyderabad, to organise and monitor the export promotion events.

JMDC has incurred the following expenditure during the last three years towards export promotion of jute goods from its annual budget and from the budget provided to it for execution of the National Jute Development Programme under UNDP.

	GOI (Rs./Lakhs)	UNDP (US $)
1995-96	2343.26	195550
1996-97	2361.36	214515
1997-98	2366.95	269639

(d) and (e) The Government has taken several other steps to help the jute industry in export of jute goods. In addition to the export promotion efforts of JMDC through market incentives like EMA, the Council organises Buyer-Seller Meetings, liaises with importers and end users and provides funds for R&D to develop new range of diversified jute products.

The Government has also implemented a National Jute Programme with UNDP assistance and set up National Centre for Jute Diversification for entrepreneurial development in jute sector.

Import/Export performance in Textile Industry

2631. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of yarn fabric and made-ups into the country increased by 32% during April-July this year;

(b) the countries from which imports are going on; and

(c) the export performance during that period?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) According the provisional figures of the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), the import of textile yarn, fabrics and made-ups during the period April-July, 1998 recorded an increase of 32% in rupee terms and 14.8% in dollar terms, over the corresponding period of the previous year.

(b) Republic of Korea, Chinese Taipei, Peoples Republic of China, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, Nepal, Thailand and USA are the major countries from which these textiles items are being imported by India.

(c) As per DGCI&S figures, the export of textile yarn, fabrics and made-ups amounted to Rs. 5620.31 Crore (provisional) during the period April-July, 1998.

Crisis in Jute Industry

2632. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the jute industry is fast heading for a serious crisis as it is sandwitched between suspension